

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DUSSEL 00142 101604Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /066 W
----- 006491

R 101515Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2809

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUSSELDORF 0142

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, XT

SUBJECT: NRW MINISTER PRESIDENT KUEHN'S VIEWS ON WESTERN
EUROPEAN COMMUNISTS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AT A TALK BEFORE THE AMERICAN CLUB IN
DUSSELDORF ON FEB 5 MINISTER PRESIDENT OF NORTH RHINE-
WESTPHALIA, HEINZ KUEHN (SPD), STATED THAT THERE COULD
NOT BE AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN A SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND
A COMMUNIST PARTY IN WESTERN EUROPE BECAUSE OF THE
CENTRALIZED NATURE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTIES. HE RECOGNIZED
A TENDENCY TOWARDS NATIONAL COMMUNISM IN FRANCE AND ITALY
AND POSSIBLY IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL BUT CONTRASTED THIS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DUSSEL 00142 101604Z

WITH THE EAST GERMAN COMMUNISTS, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS

150 PERCENT LOYAL TO MOSCOW. IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS TOO INSIGNIFICANT TO JUSTIFY CONSIDERATION AS A FACTOR IN GOVERNMENT, HE NOTED. END SUMMARY.

2. KUEHN, WHO IS ON THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SAID THAT THE GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTY WOULD WIN LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF THE VOTES IN THE OCT 3 NATIONAL ELECTION AND WOULD NOT DO BETTER IN LOCAL ELECTIONS. HE INDICATED THAT RADICALISM IN GENERAL HAD BEEN ON THE WANE IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC SINCE THE UPROAR AT THE UNIVERSITIES IN THE SIXTIES. IN FACT THE PENDULUM SEEMED TO BE SWINGING TOWARDS CONSERVATISM.

3. IN FRANCE AND ITALY ON THE OTHER HAND KUEHN RECOGNIZED THE EXISTENCE OF VERY STRONG COMMUNIST PARTIES, THE LEADERS OF WHICH ENJOYED SOCIAL PRESTIGE AND WERE CONSULTED BY GOVERNING POLITICIANS AS A MATTER OF COURSE. KUEHN FORESAW THE POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNIST PARTIES INDEPENDENT FROM MOSCOW IN THESE COUNTRIES AND POSSIBLY ALSO IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. HE RECOUNTED THAT SOVIET OFFICIALS HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN TO HIM ABOUT THIS DEVELOPMENT. HE VOICED HIS BELIEF THAT A SITUATION SIMILAR TO THAT IN YUGOSLAVIA COULD EVOLVE AMONG THE FRENCH COMMUNISTS, WHO ARE FRENCHMEN FIRST AND COMMUNISTS SECOND.

4. KUEHN CHARACTERIZED GERMAN COMMUNISTS AS 150 PERCENT COMMUNISTS. HE SAID THAT ONE COULD HAVE A RATIONAL DISCUSSION WITH EAST EUROPEANS BUT NOT WITH GDR OFFICIALS WHO ONLY PARROTED THE SOVIET PARTY LINE.

5. DESPITE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A "TRICOLORE" COMMUNISM KUEHN FORESAW NO POSSIBILITY OF A WORKABLE ALLIANCE BETWEEN A SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND A COMMUNIST PARTY IN WESTERN EUROPE SO LONG AS THE COMMUNIST PARTY RETAINS ITS TOALITARIAN NATURE.DUX

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, SOCIALISM, COMMUNISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DUSSEL00142
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760051-0087
From: DUSSELDORF
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760265/aaaaceux.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NRW MINISTER PRESIDENT KUEHN'S VIEWS ON WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNISTS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, XT, GE, SPD, (KUEHN, HEINZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006